

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 2-14 and 24-28 are pending in the application, with claims 2, 4, 8 and 27 being the independent claims. Claim 2 is sought to be amended.

The amendment to claim 2 is fully supported by the specification and the original claims. For example, originally filed claim 8 specifically excludes polynucleotides which hybridize to nucleotides 511-985 of SEQ ID NO:1 or to nucleotides 533-1007 of SEQ ID NO:6. These are the sequences of DD3, a clone earlier isolated but not included in the present application. (See First Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, at page 5).

This amendment has been made to clearly indicate that these specific sequences are excluded from the claims. The absence of this exclusion in claim 2 was an inadvertent error, which Applicants correct herewith.


Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicant believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Jorge A. Goldstein
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 29,021

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1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600

Version with markings to show changes made

Claim 2 is amended as follows:

2. (Twice Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding prostate cancer antigen 3 (PCA3) comprising a polynucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a nucleotide sequence encoding a PCA3 polypeptide comprising the complete amino acid sequence in SEQ ID NO:2;

(b) a nucleotide sequence encoding a PCA3 polypeptide comprising the complete amino acid sequence in SEQ ID NO:7;

(c) a nucleotide sequence encoding a PCA3 polypeptide comprising the complete amino acid sequence encoded by the polynucleotide clone contained in the deposit at the Centraal voor Schimmelcultures as accession number CBS 682.97;

(d) a nucleotide sequence encoding a PCA3 polypeptide comprising the complete amino acid sequence encoded by the polynucleotide clone contained in the deposit at the Centraal voor Schimmelcultures as accession number CBS 100521;

(e) a nucleotide sequence comprising the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1, 3, 4, or 6;

(f) a nucleotide sequence completely complementary to any of the nucleotide sequences in (a), (b), (c), (d) or (e); and

(g) a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes under high stringency conditions to any of the nucleotide sequences in (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) or (f), wherein said nucleotide sequence does not hybridize to nucleotides 511-985 of SEQ ID NO:1 or to nucleotides 533-1007 of SEQ ID NO:6.